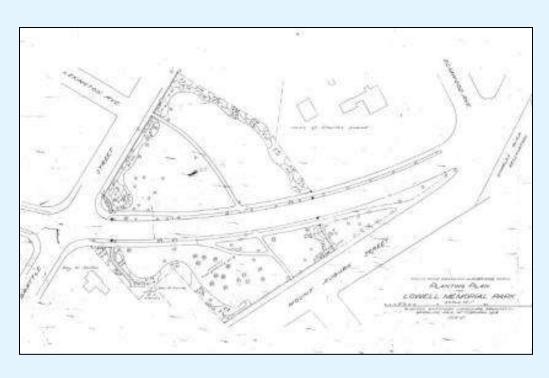
# **Lowell Memorial Park Historic Wall Repairs**

February 10, 2016









#### Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Governor

Charles D. Baker

Lt Governor

Karyn E. Polito

**Energy and Environmental Secretary** 

Matthew A. Beaton

Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner

Leo Pierre Roy

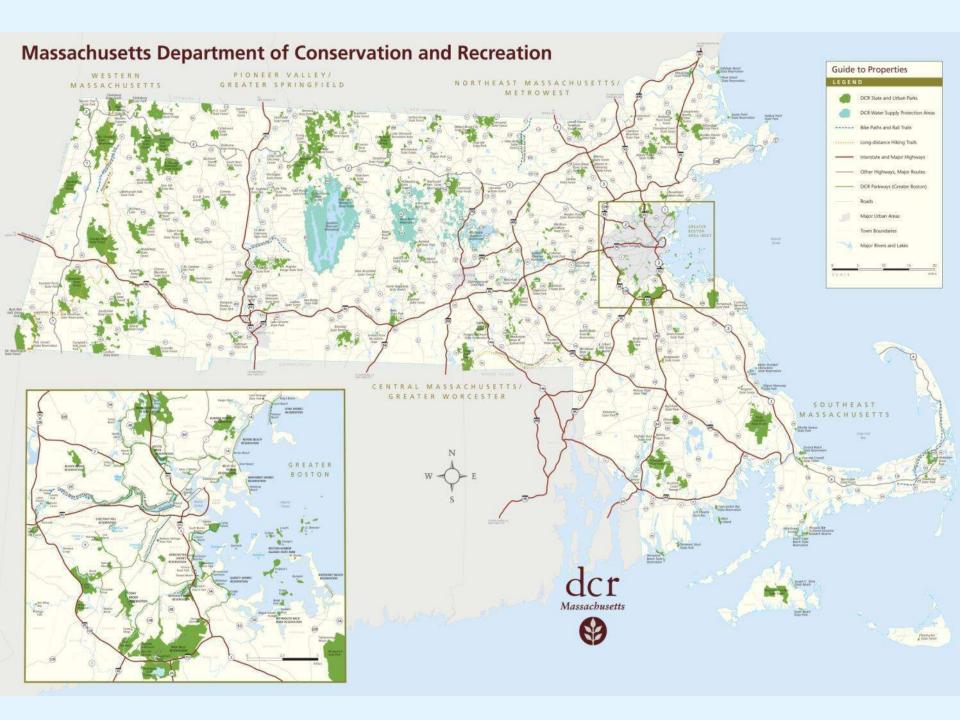
#### DCR Mission

To protect, promote and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural and recreational resources for the well-being of all.

#### Purpose of the Meeting

- Information on plans to repair walls
- Project includes walls in northern section of Lowell Memorial Park
- Walls in southern section are not included, but will be part of a future phase of work









**Elmwood** 





Early Metropolitan Park

Olmsted Brothers design

#### **Historic Site**

#### **Elmwood**

- Oliver
- Gerry
- Lowell

National Historic Landmark







From 1877 City of Cambridge map, Franklin View Co. (Courtesy Norman B. Leventhal Map Center at the Boston Public Library)

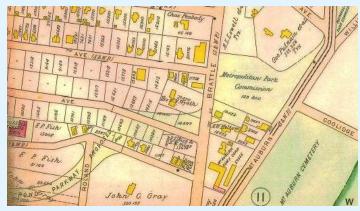
Memorial to James Russell Lowell (1819-1891)

- Fireside Poet
- Abolitionist
- Ambassador



#### Part of Nation's First Regional Park System

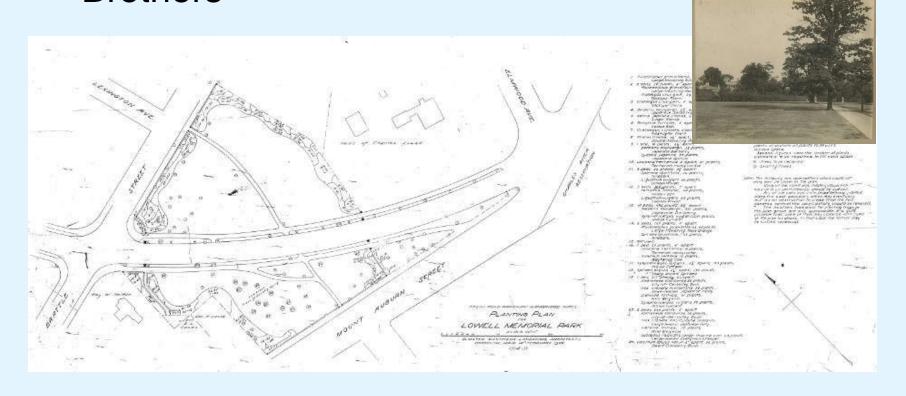
- Metropolitan Park System of Greater Boston
- National Register of Historic Places



1900 Atlas of Middlesex Co. (Courtesy of Cambridge Historical Commission)



Work of a noted designer – The Olmsted Brothers



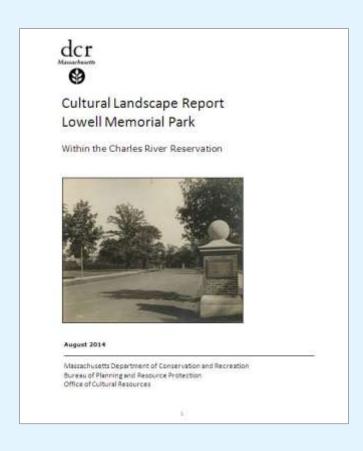
### **Project Background**

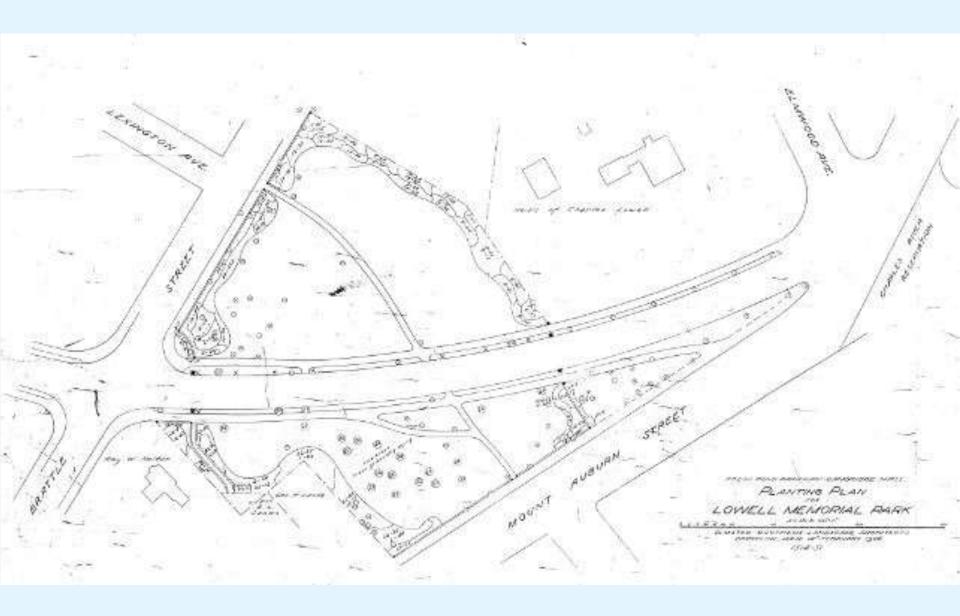
- 2012 DCR listening session
- 2014 Public Meeting
  - Cultural landscape Report
  - Wall Assessment
- 2015 Mt Auburn/Fresh Pond Parkway Traffic Study



#### **Planning Context**

- Plan to rehabilitate entire park landscape
- Wall Repair is high priority recommendation in CLR
  - Current project North
  - Future phase South
- Work in Big Lowell unaffected by traffic study





# **Existing Conditions**











#### **Preservation Treatment**

- Rehabilitation
   acknowledges the need to
   alter or add to a historic
   property to meet
   continuing or changing
   uses while retaining the
   property's historic
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties

character.



#### **Priority Recommendations**

- Brick Walls and Posts
- Vegetation
- Circulation
- Site Amenities
- Signage
- Interpretation



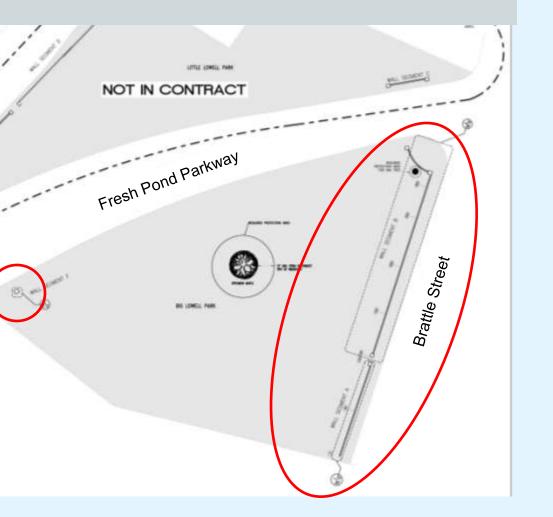
# Wall Repair Project

 Architect: Simpson, Gumpertz & Heger

\$30,000 design

\$150,000 construction

Consultation with MA
 Historical Commission
 and Cambridge
 Historical Commission



#### **Tree Removals**

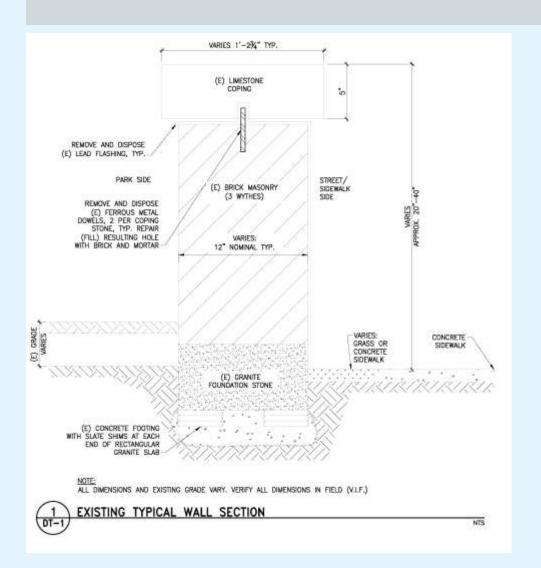
- Roots impacting walls
- Self seeded, invasive
- Not part of Olmsted plan
- Opens historic views





Yews to be removed by DCR before work starts

# **Existing Wall Construction**







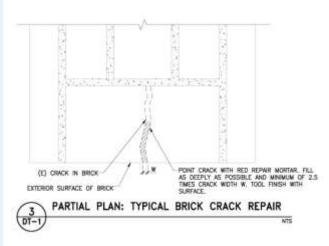
# **Overall Wall Treatment**

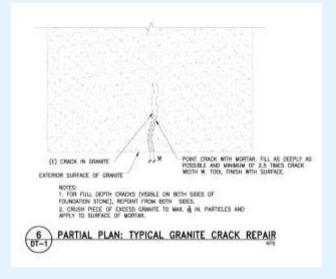
- Clean, repoint wall
- Replace broken bricks/Repair cracks
- Rebuild Partial and Full
- Stabilize Tree Cut Outs
- Repair coping stones
- Reset coping stones
- Remove graffiti
- Reset dropped foundations
- Re-establish grade



# Replace Bricks/Repair Cracks

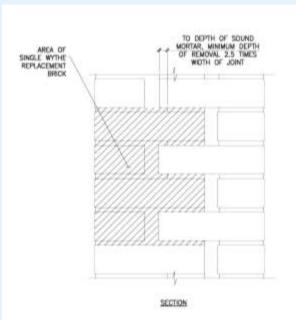






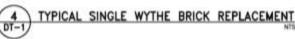
# **Partial Rebuild**





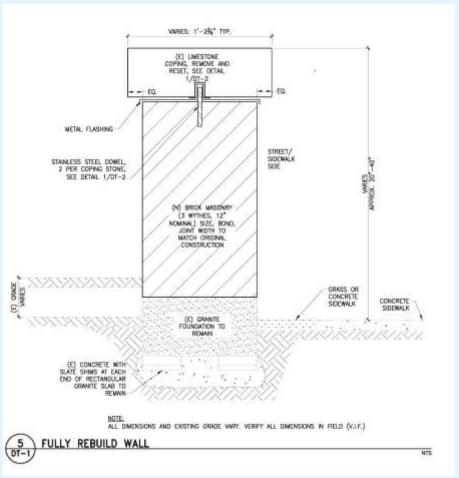
- REPAIR NOTES;

  1. REMOVE EXISTING OUTER WYTHE OF MASONRY IN AREA OF SPALLED BRICK WITHOUT DAMAGING BRICK TO REMAIN.
- REMOVE MORTAR FROM SECOND WYTHE OF BRICK AND
- USING BRICK TO MATCH EXISTING BRICK, REBUILD OUTER WYTHE OF BRICK TO MATCH PATTERN AND COURSING OF ORIGINAL MASONRY.
- 4. TOOL JOINTS TO MATCH ORIGINAL MORTAR JOINTS.



# **Full Rebuild**

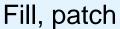




# **Stabilize Tree Cut Outs**

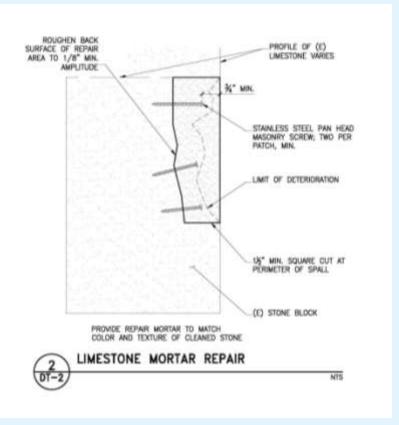


Stabilize, preserve



# Repair Coping Stone

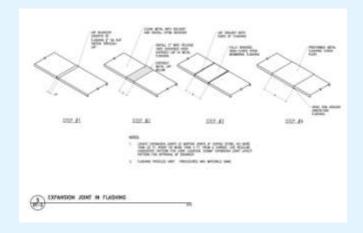


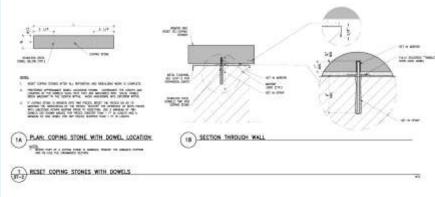


Repair limestone spalls

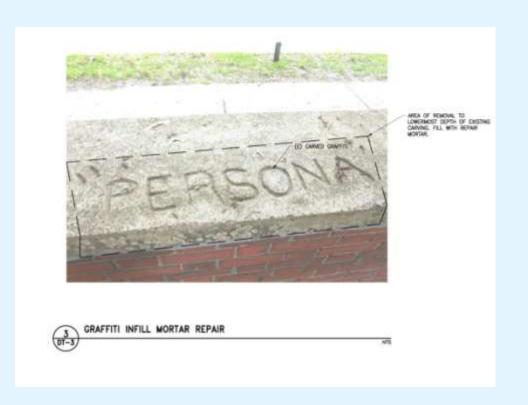
# **Reset Coping Stones**

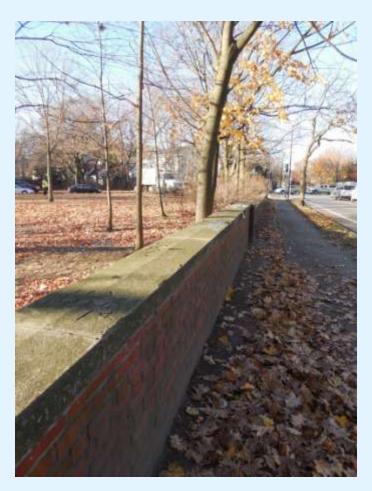




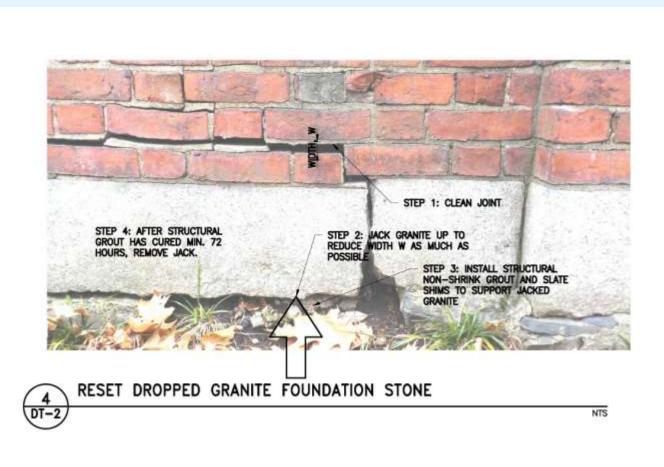


# **Remove Graffiti**



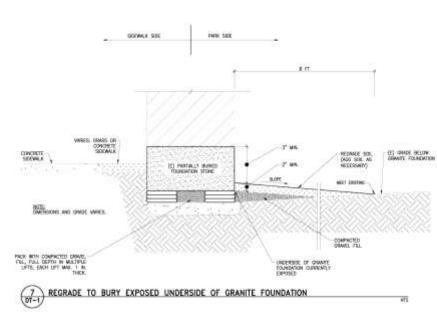


# **Reset Dropped Foundation**



# Re-establish grade





#### **Schedule**

- MHC filing
- Advertise Project
- Pre Bid meeting
- Bids due
- DCR awards project
- Construction start
- Construction end

February 10, 2016

March 2, 2016

March 16, 2016

March 30, 2016

May 15, 2016

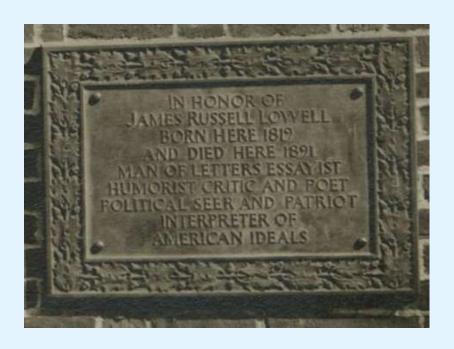
June 1, 2016

September 15, 2016

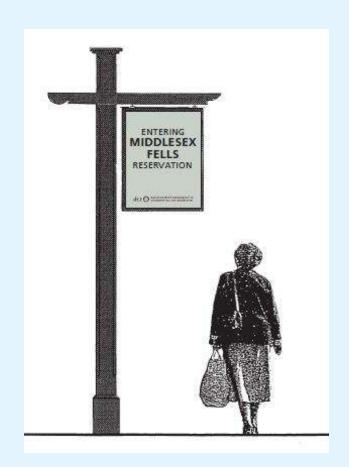
# **Impacts During Construction**

- Northern part of park closed or partially closed during construction
- Possible pedestrian re-route on Brattle Street
- Laydown, storage and parking on site
- Noise: grinder to sawcut mortar
- Hours of work: 7am 6pm weekdays
  - 9am 6pm weekends
- Standard dust control, site restoration
- Extra protection for Ancient maple

# **Coming soon**



 Restore bronze plaques

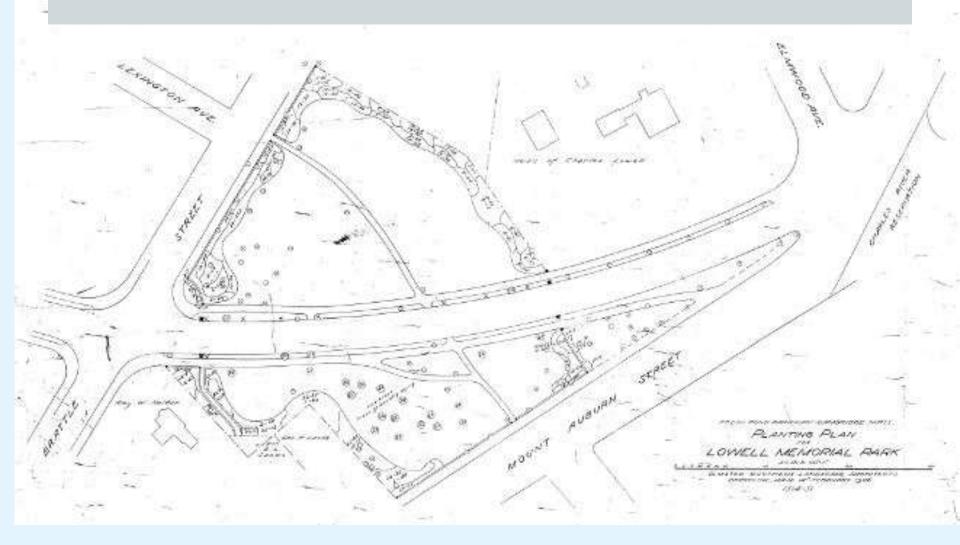


Add park sign

### The Result

- Stable, safe walls
- Cohesive historic look
- Brighter limestone coping and finials, revealing beauty of natural stone
- White mortar to contrast with red brick
- One step closer to capturing the feel of this special place

# 1906 Olmsted Plan as a Guide



# Wall Repair Project

#### City of Cambridge

•	<b>Community Preservation</b>	n Act Committee	\$85,000
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•	Cambridge Plant and Garden Club	\$ 5,000
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#### Commonwealth of MA

DCR Partnership grant \$90,000

Total Budget \$180,000

#### **Additional Information**

#### For more information:

- -Web: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/public-outreach/public-meetings/">http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/public-outreach/public-meetings/</a>
- Cultural Landscape Report posted here: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/conservation/cultural-resources/">http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/conservation/cultural-resources/</a>

If you would like to be added to an email list to receive DCR general announcements:

Email: MassParks@state.ma.us Call: 617-626-4973